

Grace Baptist Church, Arlington, Texas

OUR MISSION: *Love people to a full, mature life in Jesus Christ*

Our <i>Biblically Grounded</i> Structure	Our <i>Purpose-Driven</i> Vision	Our "A to Z," <i>People-Focussed</i> Strategy
<p>CHURCH AS A FAMILY (John 13:34-35; 1 Peter 3:8)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Functioning on the basis of relationships, not rules (Gal. 6:10; 1 Tim. 5:1-2; 1 Tim. 3:4) ♦ Sharing life on the basis of unconditional love (John 13:34) 	<p>EVANGELISM</p> <p><i>Reaching out and pursuing lost and spiritually seeking people to join the family of God</i></p>	<p>A. Relationship building with the lost</p> <p>B. Outreach events & ministries</p> <p>C. Preschool, Children, & Youth ministries</p> <p>D. <i>First Impressions</i> ministries</p> <p>E. Presenting the gospel</p>
<p>CHURCH AS A FELLOWSHIP (Acts 2:42)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Top Priorities: Unity & Harmony (Eph. 4:3; Ps. 133:1) ♦ Decision Making: Unity Process (1 Cor. 1:9-10) 	<p>FELLOWSHIP</p> <p><i>Caring for and incorporating new believers and members into the life of the church</i></p>	<p>F. Immediate follow-up</p> <p>G. Believer's baptism</p> <p>H. <i>Exploring Church Membership</i></p> <p>I. Mentor new believers</p> <p>J. Sunday School / Adult Bible Fellowship</p>
<p>CHURCH AS A FLOCK (John 10:1-30; Matt. 26:31; 25:33)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Led by called spiritual shepherds (pastors) - John 21:16-17 ♦ Supported by model servants (deacons) - Acts 6:1-7 ♦ Hearing and following Christ (members) - John 10:14-16 	<p>WORSHIP</p> <p><i>Acknowledging the presence of Christ by expressing in unity His Lordship as the Chief Shepherd</i></p>	<p>K. Worship participation</p> <p>L. Inviting others to church</p> <p>M. Tithing & giving</p> <p>N. Outreach to guests</p> <p>O. Intercessory prayer</p>
<p>CHURCH AS THE BRIDE OF CHRIST</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ The church relating to Christ as a wife relates to a husband (Eph. 5:22-32) ♦ Christ's 2nd coming and "marriage" is compared to the coming of a groom (Matt. 25:10-13; Rev. 19:7-8; 22:17) ♦ God's family must intentionally purify themselves; live sanctified (1 John 3:1-3; 1 Thess. 4:1-12) 	<p>DISCIPLESHIP</p> <p><i>Growing towards full maturity in the grace of the Lord Jesus in preparation for His coming</i></p>	<p>P. Entry-level ministry</p> <p>Q. Personal devotional habits</p> <p>R. Bible study skills development</p> <p>S. Christian life skills development</p> <p>T. Accountability groups</p> <p>U. <i>SHAPE</i> discovery, development & deployment (Spiritual gifts, <i>H</i>eat passions, <i>A</i>bilities, <i>P</i>ersonality, <i>E</i>xperiences)</p>
<p>CHURCH AS A SPIRITUAL BODY (Rom. 12:4-8; 1 Cor. 12:27; Eph. 1:22-23; 5:23; Col. 1:18)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Functioning on the basis of spiritual gifts ♦ Maximizing ministry and minimize maintenance ♦ Every member ministering in a healthy, unified body 	<p>MINISTRY</p> <p><i>Serving the Lord by ministering to the church body and impacting the world for Christ</i></p>	<p>V. Mid-level ministry service</p> <p>W. Ministry equipping</p> <p>X. Mentoring younger believers</p> <p>Y. Life mission discovery and focus</p> <p>Z. Global Missions participation</p>

Note: The 5 Purposes in middle column are listed in sequential, not priority order

(12-12-07)